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UTAH DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

DEC - 2 2013

DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY

December 2, 2013

Mr. Bryce Bird, Director
Utah Division of Air Quality
150 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Mr. Bird:

Subject: Kennecott Utah Copper's comments on Utah's PM_{2.5} SIP for the Salt Lake City Nonattainment Area.

Kennecott Utah Copper LLC (KUC) submits the following comments on Section IX, Part H (Part H) of Utah's proposed PM_{2.5} State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the Salt Lake City Nonattainment Area. Specifically, this letter responds to the public notice in the November 1, 2013, Utah State Bulletin (DAR File No. 38061).

KUC recognizes the complex and difficult task that the Utah Division of Air Quality (UDAQ) undertook as it developed a SIP that would bring an area with difficult meteorology and topography into attainment with the 24-hour PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

Comment # 1: KUC's RACT Analysis and Part H Limits

As part of its effort to develop the PM_{2.5} SIP, UDAQ completed an analysis of Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) for major sources located in the Salt Lake City nonattainment area. Specifically, this analysis showed that current operating practices at the Bingham Canyon Mine (BCM) represent RACT; in other words, UDAQ's RACT determination found that there were no additional controls that were currently available that KUC could implement to reduce emissions from the BCM. Yet, in the draft Part H Emission Limits, the agency proposed measures that would require KUC to reduce the Mine's annual emissions by 10% by 2019.

KUC understands the difficulties created by our airshed and recognizes that to attain the PM_{2.5} NAAQS, UDAQ will need to impose requirements that result in reduced emissions from an array of sources. For point source, those emission reductions are necessarily tied to the control technology identified in the associated RACT determination as reflected in the Technical Support Document (TSD). For the BCM, the TSD concludes that there are no additional controls available beyond those already in use at the Mine. Notwithstanding the conclusion that there are no further measures reasonably available to reduce emissions at BCM, UDAQ's Part H emission limits require an additional 10% reduction for BCM.

KUC will, of course, work toward finding a method of meeting the requirements that UDAQ has proposed for BCM. However, if approved, UDAQ's Part H emission limits will put KUC in the difficult, if not impossible, position of being required to cut emissions absent curtailing operations.

Comment # 2: UDAQ Proposed Part H Limits

As explained in Comment # 1, UDAQ has proposed a 10% reduction in emissions at the Bingham Canyon Mine. These reductions are presumed necessary to demonstrate modelled attainment of the 24-hour $PM_{2.5}$ standard in 2019. However, and as explained in greater detail in KUC's comments submitted on the attainment demonstration,¹ and incorporated herein by this reference, it is very unlikely that reductions from BCM will aid in attaining the NAAQS. Accordingly, KUC requests that UDAQ provide a quantitative modeling assessment evaluating whether the proposed 10% reduction in BCM emissions will materially aid in achieving attainment. We understand that even if certain control measures are deemed to constitute RACT, they may be eliminated if they will not advance the attainment demonstration by a calendar year.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the $PM_{2.5}$ SIP. If you desire any further information or clarification of these comments please contact me.

Sincerely,

Kennecott Utah Copper LLC



Chris Kaiser

¹ See Kennecott Utah Copper's Comments on Utah $PM_{2.5}$ SIP for the Salt Lake City Nonattainment Area, Comment No. 3, October 31, 2013.